



Appendix O

United States/Canada Greenhouse Certification Program

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Introduction

■ PPQ, APHIS, USDA, and the Canadian Food and Inspection Agency (CFIA) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to provide for a modified phytosanitary certification program for the expeditious commercial movement of certain low-risk decorative plants between the two countries.

Background

This program permits growers to enter into a Compliance Agreement (**See “APPENDIX II of U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification” on [page-O-1-8](#)**) with their respective State plant regulatory agencies for the purpose of substituting a cyclical inspection process in place of individual consignment inspection and certification. Grower participants in the program must implement measures to ensure that eligible plants are grown, stored, packed, and shipped free from quarantine pests of concern to Canada. The traditional phytosanitary certificate will be replaced with a “sticker” label certificate bearing a registration number assigned by the State plant regulatory agency. This label certificate will be affixed to one of the shipping documents (bill of lading, air waybill, etc.) accompanying shipments to Canada. The label and other elements of the Program will satisfy the phytosanitary requirements of Canada.

Program Requirements

Eligible Plant Types:

Plant types that may be included in the Greenhouse Certification Program comprise those commonly known and recognized as indoor foliage and flowering plants and those categorized as bedding plants intended for planting either indoors or outdoors. The majority of eligible plant types fall into the following categories:

- ◆ bedding plants
- ◆ flowering plants
- ◆ foliage plants
- ◆ potted bulb plants
- ◆ orchids
- ◆ cacti
- ◆ succulents

No plants on the excluded list ([See “APPENDIX I of U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program” on page-O-1-6](#)) are to be shipped to Canada under this program.

Trade in certain plant species is subject to ESA and CITES requirements. Refer to **Process Protected Plants** ([page-2-8-1](#)) of the **Methods and Procedures** section of the Export Certification Manual for instructions on handling protected plants.

Origin:

All plants shipped to Canada under the auspices of this program must be of United States **propagative** origin. Plant material originating from offshore sources shall remain segregated at the establishment until such time as the plants have completed a significant cycle of vegetative growth and undergone a minimum of one quarterly inspection.

Phytosanitary Standards:

- ◆ Participating nursery establishments located in Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*) infested areas will be governed by the provisions of the Canada-United States Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan.



The full text of the Canada-United States Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan is contained in the General Information section of the EXCERPT data base for Canada.

- ◆ In addition to Japanese beetle exclusion, cultural/pest control practices used in participating nursery establishments must be adequate to prevent any possible infestation with gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*), soybean cyst nematode (*Heterodera glycines*), Columbia root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne chitwoodi*), blueberry maggot (*Rhagoletis mendax*), apple maggot (*Rhagoletis pomonella*), brown garden snail (*Helix aspersa*), or other plant pests of quarantine concern to Canada. Consult EXCERPT for pest mitigation measures applicable to State of origin.
- ◆ There is a zero tolerance for quarantine pests in the greenhouses/screenhouses of participating nursery establishments. Also, participating facilities must be considered “practically free”¹ from other injurious plant pests. Nursery establishments found not to be in compliance with these sanitation criteria will be removed from the program and the compliance agreement canceled. Establishments having been sanctioned for noncompliance will not be eligible for reinstatement in the program until such time as subsequent official inspections indicate the pest problems have been eliminated.

Responsibilities:

Participating Nursery Establishments

- ◆ Must be under compliance agreement with the State plant regulatory authority and must use State approved nursery sanitation and pest control practices. Establishments meeting the conditions will be denoted as “designated facilities.”
- ◆ Must receive regular phytosanitary inspections by the State plant regulatory authority. The frequency of inspections will be specified in the compliance agreement.
- ◆ Must have a competent staff capable of carrying out the requirements of the program. At least one staff member must have a thorough understanding of the program and demonstrate the capability to carry out program requirements. This person shall be designated as the “Facility Contact Person.” All other staff members in the facility should be aware of the phytosanitary standards and trained, if deemed necessary, to carry out certain functions of the program.
- ◆ Must have a pest management program in effect that will assure consistent compliance with the phytosanitary standards. The pest management program may be one that is established and recommended by the State or by industry, or it may be

¹ Practically free means not to exceed a 2 percent infestation level of non-quarantine pests unless otherwise stated by Canada. The practically free condition represents a judgement that the pests are not in excess of the amount expected to result from, and be consistent with good culturing and handling practices employed in the production and marketing of the commodity.

specifically developed by the facility. The procedures followed in the program must be documented for review by the State Plant Regulatory Agency.

- ◆ New plant material brought into the greenhouse should be held for inspection for pests before moving the material into the main production areas. If pests are found, eradication measures should be taken immediately.
- ◆ Should be inspected by qualified facility personnel at the frequency as specified in the pest management program. If pests are detected, control measures must be taken to ensure compliance with the phytosanitary standards. When export shipments are being prepared, plants and shipping areas should be examined to prevent pest contamination and to ensure that the phytosanitary standards are met. Written reports of all inspections, including the date of inspection, the plants inspected, the inspection results and any corrective actions taken should be made available upon request of the State Plant Regulatory Agency, PPQ or CFIA.
- ◆ May use other pest detection methods to obtain early warnings of pest infestations (e.g. sticky traps, pheromone traps). Eradication may be more easily achieved if infestations are detected when the pest population is small or in juvenile stages. The State Plant Regulatory Agency must be notified immediately of any uncommon pest damage or symptoms are observed or when quarantine pests are detected or suspected.
- ◆ Must maintain records of all nursery grown plants, including origin, exported under this program. The records must list all plants exported under the program and the serial numbers of export certification labels used. These records must be maintained for at least 1 year and are to be made available on request to the State Plant Regulatory Agency, PPQ, and CFIA.
- ◆ Plant consignments destined to Canada must have an approved label certificate bearing the grower's assigned registration number affixed to one of the shipping documents (bill of lading, air waybill, etc.). **See “APPENDIX III of U.S.\Canada Greenhouse Certification Program” on page-O-1-11**, for Label Certificate format.

Brokers

- ◆ Brokers and nursery establishments who ship plants produced in other designated facilities must record the sources of plants including the source identification number. Prior to exportation, these brokers and nursery establishments must submit a trace-back plan to the State Plant Regulatory Agency for approval.

**State Plant
Regulatory
Agency**

- ◆ The designated facilities shall apply an export certification label to the invoice issued to the designated broker or nursery establishment shipping the product. For product sourced from non-designated facilities and shipped with a certification label, a State Plant Regulatory Agency's inspection report is required and must be kept as a record for at least 1 year from the date of shipment.
- ◆ Will conduct an initial inspection of a facility that has applied to participate in the Greenhouse Certification Program. The initial inspection is necessary to ensure that the applicant can meet the requirements of the program.
- ◆ Will conduct phytosanitary inspections of participating nursery establishments at the frequency specified in the compliance agreement. If a quarantine pest is found during an inspection, the certification status of the facility will be immediately revoked. The identifying mark affixed to export certification labels is the property of the State Plant Regulatory Agency. If certification is revoked, labels must be surrendered to this Agency. After eradication of the pest, the facility operator must notify the Agency and arrange for reinspection. This follow-up inspection is required to verify eradication of the pest from the facility. If an inspection reveals a significant population of non-quarantine pests, the certification status of the facility will be revoked until a follow-up inspection confirms that the pest problem has been controlled. Export certification labels may not be used until certification is re-instated. During a suspension period, Phytosanitary Certificates may be issued if the pest has been eradicated from the material destined for export. If the inspection reveals a population of non-quarantine pests at low and commonly accepted levels, the findings will be recorded and the facility operator will be advised to take immediate control measures. Export certification labels may be used for plants meeting the phytosanitary standards at the time of shipment. However, any facility that cannot maintain satisfactory phytosanitary controls will lose its designated status and will be ineligible for inclusion in the Greenhouse Certification Program.
- ◆ Will conduct audit inspections to ensure that only approved plants are being exported and that approved program procedures are being followed.
- ◆ Will provide a list of designated facilities to the responsible PPQ State Plant Health Director. This should include facility name, address, and designated number.
- ◆ Will notify the responsible PPQ State Plant Health Director of the revocation of any compliance agreement and the affected grower's identification number.

**USDA, APHIS,
Plant Protection
and Quarantine
(PPQ)**

- ◆ Upon request, will provide PPQ with pertinent information regarding program operations in their respective State. This information will include export statistics; the names of participating establishments and assigned registration numbers; and violations of program conditions and resultant sanctions, if any. This information will be provided to CFIA by PPQ as necessary.

**Canadian Food
and Inspection
Agency (CFIA)**

- ◆ It is the responsibility of PPQ, APHIS, to monitor the operation of the Greenhouse Certification Program throughout the United States and to effect any changes necessary to maintain the viability and integrity of the program.
- ◆ The PPQ State Plant Health Director will send the information on the designated facilities or revocation of a facility to the PPQ Export Unit, Riverdale, Maryland. The Export Unit will be responsible for supplying a list of designated facilities to Canada and will notify CFIA of revocations.
- ◆ It is understood that CFIA has the privilege of conducting an on-site inspection of any establishment in the United States participating in the Greenhouse Certification Program. CFIA will provide advance notice to PPQ of its intention to conduct an on-site inspection.

APPENDIX I of U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program

Plants that Cannot be Shipped to Canada Under the Greenhouse Program

- ◆ *Acer*
- ◆ *Aesculus*
- ◆ *Ajania* spp.
- ◆ *Allium* spp.
- ◆ *Abies* spp.
- ◆ *Arbutus*
- ◆ *Arctostaphylos*
- ◆ *Berberis* spp.
- ◆ *Capsicum* spp.
- ◆ *Castanea* spp.
- ◆ *Chaenomeles* spp.
- ◆ *Chrysanthemum* spp. (except finished pot mums)
- ◆ *Corylus* spp.
- ◆ *Crataegus* spp.
- ◆ *Cydonia* spp.

- ◆ *Dendranthema* spp. (except finished pot mums)
- ◆ *Elodea densa*
- ◆ *Gayfussacia* spp.
- ◆ *Heteromeles*
- ◆ *Hydrilla verticillata*
- ◆ *Juniperus* spp.
- ◆ *Larix* spp.
- ◆ *Leucanthemella* spp.
- ◆ *Lithocarpus* spp.
- ◆ *Lonicera*
- ◆ *Lycopersicon* spp.
- ◆ *Mahoberberis* spp.
- ◆ *Mahonia* spp.
- ◆ *Malus* spp.
- ◆ *Myriophyllum* spp.
- ◆ *Nicotiana tabacum*
- ◆ *Nipponanthemum* spp.
- ◆ *Picea* spp.
- ◆ *Pinus* spp.
- ◆ *Prunus* spp.
- ◆ *Pseudotsuga* spp.
- ◆ *Pyrus* spp.
- ◆ *Quercus* spp.
- ◆ *Rhamnus* spp.
- ◆ *Rhododendron*
- ◆ *Sequoia*
- ◆ *Solanum* spp.
- ◆ *Trapa* spp.
- ◆ *Ulmus* spp.
- ◆ *Umbellularia*
- ◆ *Vaccinium* spp.
- ◆ *Viburnum*
- ◆ *Vitis* spp.

◆ *Zelkova* spp.

APPENDIX II of U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification

Suggested Compliance Agreement Elements

1. No plants on the excluded list are to be shipped to Canada under the Greenhouse Certification Program (attach a list of excluded plants to the compliance agreement).
2. Plants must be grown in a growing area (greenhouse/screenhouse) approved by the State plant regulatory agency.
3. The nursery establishment must use nursery sanitation, cultural, and pest control practices approved by the State plant regulatory agency. Such practices must be designed to prevent the introduction and establishment of any pest of quarantine concern to Canada.
4. If the nursery establishment is located in a Japanese beetle infested area the establishment will be governed by the provisions of the Canada-United States Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan.
5. The State plant regulatory agency and/or Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) will conduct phytosanitary inspections of participating greenhouses/screenhouses at a minimum of once per month. A reduction in this frequency may be considered when a record of compliance with standards has been established. Timing of inspections should be influenced by the type of plant material being grown in the greenhouses/screenhouses and the potential for pest infestations.
6. The State plant regulatory agency and/or PPQ will conduct audit inspections to ensure that only approved plants are being exported and that approved program procedures are being followed.
7. A sticker, or label certificate bearing the grower's assigned registration number must be affixed to one of the shipping documents (bill of lading, air waybill, etc.) accompanying each shipment so as to be readily visible to an inspector at the Canadian point of entry.
8. Records of plant inventories, including origin of plants, and date of receipt, of any nursery-grown plant shipped under this program are to be maintained at the nursery premises for at least 1 year after shipment. These records are to be made available on request to the State plant regulatory agency and Canadian Food and Inspection Agency (CFIA).

- 9. The compliance agreement should include a notation to the effect that Plant Protection Division, CFIA has the right, following advance notification, to conduct an on-site inspection of any establishment in the United States participating in the Greenhouse Certification Program.
- 10. Violation of any stipulation in the compliance agreement will be grounds for termination of the agreement. Where a violation of the program conditions occur, the facility will be immediately suspended for a period of time agreed to by PPQ and CFIA.
- 11. Each compliance agreement is to be countersigned by a PPQ State Plant Health Director or authorized representative.

<p style="text-align: center;">FLORIDA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EXPORT OF GREENHOUSE-GROWN DECORATIVE PLANTS TO CANADA</p> <p>I/We agree that no liability shall be attached to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), Division of Plant Industry (DPI), or any of their employees in the event of injury to property or personnel. I/We further agree to carry out sanitary measures which may be required by the DPI and to carry out and abide by the following stipulations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This agreement will be evaluated on a quarterly basis. If the time expended on an inspection of the nursery is greater than what would be incurred on inspections of individual shipments during that quarter, this agreement will be revoked. 2. This agreement shall pertain only to shipments of those plants commonly known and recognized as house plants and are grown solely for indoor decorative purposes. The majority of eligible plant types fall into the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ bedding plants ◆ cacti ◆ flowering plants ◆ foliage plants ◆ orchids ◆ potted bulb plants ◆ succulents 3. No plants on the excluded list (see attached list) are to be shipped to Canada under this program. 4. Eligible decorative plants purchased from other Florida nurseries intended for shipment to Canada under this agreement must originate from nurseries under compliance (U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program) or be inspected and certified by an authorized representative of DPI at the time of shipment. 5. Plant material originating from offshore sources shall remain segregated at this establishment until such time as the plants have completed a significant cycle of vegetative growth and undergone a minimum of one quarterly inspection. 6. Certification of plant material regulated under the Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) must be processed through designated USDA/PPQ ports. Authorized Florida CITES ports are: <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> Miami Inspection Station USDA-APHIS-PPQ P.O. Box 592136 Miami, Florida 33159 Tel: (305) 525-2825 </td> <td style="width: 50%;"> Orlando Inspection Station USDA-APHIS-PPQ 9317 Tradeport Drive Orlando, Florida 32827 Tel: (407) 648-6856 </td> </tr> </table> 7. This nursery establishment must use approved nursery sanitation and pest control practices, receive quarterly inspections by an authorized representative of DPI and the cost of such inspections may be borne by this establishment. 8. Plants must be grown in a DPI approved growing area. 9. Plants must be grown in a manner to prevent any possible infestation with soybean cyst nematodes, <i>Heterodera glycines</i>. 10. A sticker or label bearing an assigned grower's number and stamp certification (which will serve as the required certificate of inspection) must be affixed to the shipping documents (bill of lading, air waybill, etc.) accompanying each shipment so as to be readily visible to an inspector at the Canadian port of entry. 	Miami Inspection Station USDA-APHIS-PPQ P.O. Box 592136 Miami, Florida 33159 Tel: (305) 525-2825	Orlando Inspection Station USDA-APHIS-PPQ 9317 Tradeport Drive Orlando, Florida 32827 Tel: (407) 648-6856
Miami Inspection Station USDA-APHIS-PPQ P.O. Box 592136 Miami, Florida 33159 Tel: (305) 525-2825	Orlando Inspection Station USDA-APHIS-PPQ 9317 Tradeport Drive Orlando, Florida 32827 Tel: (407) 648-6856	

FIGURE O-1-1: Sample Compliance Agreement - Florida

11. Records of plant inventories, including origin of plants, of any nursery grown plant shipped under this program are to be maintained at the nursery premises for at least 1 year after shipment. These records are to be made available on request to DPI and the Plant Protection Division (PPD), CFIA.

12. Representatives of DPI and/or PPQ will conduct audit inspections to ensure that only approved plants are being exported and that approved program procedures are being followed. Audit inspections will be conducted during normal business hours.

13. PPD, CFIA has the right, following advance notification, to conduct an on-site inspection of the establishment covered under this Compliance Agreement.

14. Violation of any stipulation of this agreement is grounds for suspension and may result in prosecution as provided by Sections 581.141 and 581.211 Florida Statutes.

Items not eligible for export under this cooperative program must be inspected and certified by DPI on a shipment-by-shipment basis using the standard State of Florida phytosanitary certificate.

I, _____, the owner/person in possession, care or control of the above named establishment have read and understand all of the conditions and obligations stated herein by which I may export specific species of foliage plants, in accordance with the Greenhouse Inspection Program which governs the movement of greenhouse plants between the United States and Canada.

SIGNATURE TITLE DATE

INSPECTOR DATE

DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRY

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES

WITNESSED BY:

Inspector

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

United States Department of Agriculture

FIGURE O-1-1: Sample Compliance Agreement - Florida

APPENDIX III of U.S.\Canada Greenhouse Certification Program

Sample Label Certificate

Each facility approved under this program will be assigned an identification number. This number, as well as a serial number, appears on the export certification labels issued to a designated facility. The identification number and serial number make each export label unique. In addition, the label shall bear the following statement: "This shipment of greenhouse-grown plants meets the import requirements of Canada, and is believed to be free from injurious plant pests." An example of an export label is shown below.

The designated facility is responsible for paying all costs associated with obtaining export certification labels, although the labels remain the property of the State Plant Regulatory Agency. The label must meet

the specifications as that of the sample label shown below. The State Plant Regulatory Agency will authorize the printing of the labels and indicate the identification number and serial numbers to be used for the print. The serial numbers must not repeat.

The export certification label must be affixed to an air waybill, bill of lading, or other shipping documentation accompanying each shipment of plants.

A designated facility must exercise strict control over the use of export certification labels. Records must be kept of serial numbers of labels in stock and of labels used for export shipments. The facility is accountable for documenting the whereabouts of all labels. Under no circumstances should labels be given to anyone other than a person authorized by and employed by the designated facility. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in immediate suspension from the Greenhouse Certification Program.

All plants shipped under this program by a broker or producer must have been propagated and produced in a designated facility or inspected by the State Plant Regulatory Agency. If plants are sourced from a non-designated facility to be mixed with plants from a designated facility, the plants must be inspected by the State Plant Regulatory Agency. A copy of the State inspection report must be kept with the documentation by the designated facility. Shipments containing plants which were all from a non-designated facility require a normal inspection and a phytosanitary certificate.

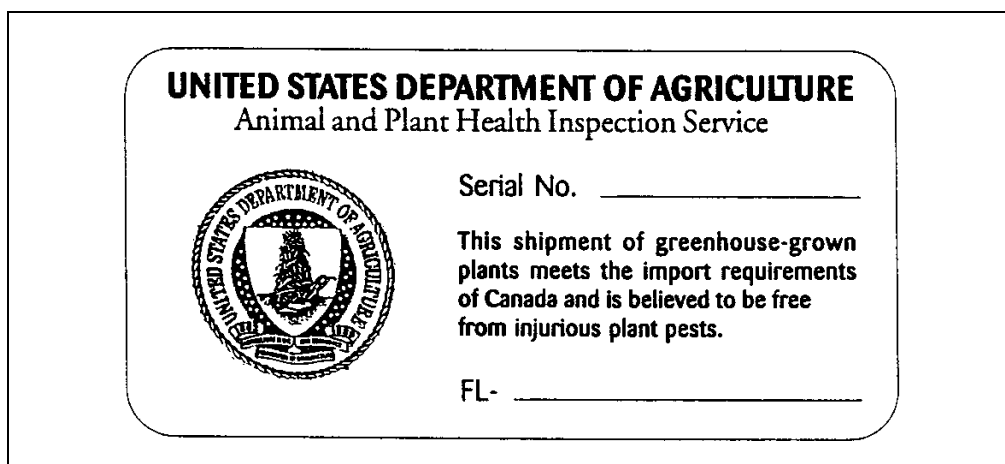
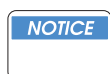


FIGURE O-1-2: Sample of an export certification label



The "FL" denotes the State of Florida. The appropriate two letter designation should be utilized for the State from which the plants are being exported.

APPENDIX IV of U.S./Canada Greenhouse Certification Program

Definitions

Bedding Plants

Bedding plants are outdoor garden plants that are grown under protection and later sold for planting in outdoor gardens. Some examples of popular bedding plants are marigolds, petunias, and geraniums.

Broker

A broker in the Greenhouse Certification Program is defined as an exporter who does not own or operate a facility for producing plants but ships plants produced by other designated facilities.

Cacti

Cacti are plants that are adapted for storing water for extended periods of drought. They generally do not have leaves, and almost all species are spiny, with spines growing from small cushion-like structures called areoles. Some of the most popular cacti grown in greenhouses include the barrel cactus, prickly pear, Christmas cactus, and Easter cactus.

Designated Facility

A designated facility in the Greenhouse Certification Program is defined as a nursery establishment which has signed a compliance agreement and is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the Greenhouse Certification Program. Plants shipped by a Designated Facility may be produced at their own facility or may be produced at another facility approved in the program.

Flowering Greenhouse Plants

Flowering greenhouse plants are those grown for their attractive flowers. These plants are grown indoors and are often incapable of surviving outdoor growing conditions in colder climates. Examples of flowering greenhouse plants include poinsettias, Easter lilies, hydrangeas, cyclamens, gloxinias, and hibiscus.

Foliage Plants

Foliage plants are distinguished by the beautiful foliage they produce rather than by the flowers. This group includes all tropical plants such as dieffenbachias, ferns, scheffleras, and philodendrons as well as coleus, crontons, fittonias, pileas, and peperomia.

Nursery Establishment

A nursery establishment is a company which owns or operates a facility for producing plants.

Orchids

Orchids represent a special group of flowering plants comprising approximately 25,000 species. Orchids are best recognized by their bilaterally symmetrical flowers. Some of the most popular greenhouse genera are *Cattleya*, *Cymbidium*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Phalaenopsis*, *Dendrobium*, *Odontoglossum*, and *Oncidium*.

Potted Bulb Plants

Potted bulb plants are produced by forcing bulbs to flower, usually for the Christmas and Easter markets. Examples in this group include tulip, narcissus, crocus, hyacinth, iris, and amaryllis.

Practically Free From Other Injurious Pests

Not carrying pests or a specific pest in numbers or quantities in excess of those that can be expected to result from, and be consistent with, good culturing and handling practices employed in the production and marketing of the commodity.

Quarantine Pest

Each importing country identifies their own quarantine pests and are listed as prohibited pests in the importing country's plant quarantine import requirements. They are pests that are of potential economic importance to the area endangered, and are not present, or present but not widely distributed and being officially controlled.

Succulents

Succulents are thick fleshy plants capable of storing large quantities of water in their leaves and stems. Many succulent plants are spineless. Succulents with spines differ from cacti in that the spines grow directly from the plants tissue rather than from structures called areoles. Some examples of succulent plants grown in greenhouses are jade plants, aloe vera, and crown-of-thorns.